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Inquiries and commissions are to be addressed to the undersigned.

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Index to Recent Literature Relating to American Botany.

Anhalonium Lewinii. (Monats. Kakteenk i. 93).

Aristolochia Sipho. (Gard. and For. v. 509; illustrated).

Aster surculosus. (Gard. and For. v. 520, with figure).

Botanical Laboratory—The. G. H. Hicks. (The Speculum, xii. 51).

A description and illustration of the Botanical Laboratory of Agricultural College, Michigan.

Botanical Notes from Central Texas. E. N. Plank. (Gard. and For. v. 351).

Quercus Durandii, Q. macrocarpa, Dalea frutescens, Lonicera albiflora, Vernonia Lindheimeri, Prosopis juliflora, Sapindus acuminatus, Ungnadia speciosa, Solanum heterodoxum, Pellæa ternata, Philibertia undulata, Desmodium Wrightii, Galactia heterophylla, Talinum lineare, Oxalis vespertilionis, Cassia Lindheimeri, C. pumilio, Mollugo Cerviana, Cissus stans, C. incisa, C. Ampelopsis and *Rubus trivialis* are among many interesting plants noted from near Lampasas and Llano.

Botany. (Ottawa Nat. vi. 113).

Among other interesting notes *Asplenium Ruta-muraria* is reported as occurring in the Province of Ontario, it previously not having been known north of Vermont and Michigan. Three northwestern plants, *Helianthus rigidus, Lepachys columnaris* and *Grindelia squarrosa* are also reported as introduced into Canada. So is also *Euphorbia marginata.*

Brunissure et la Maladie de Californie—La. P. Viala et C. Sauvageau (Journ. de Bot. vi. 378).

With illustration of *Plasmodiophora Vitis,* n. sp.

California Vine Disease—The. Newton B. Pearce. (U. S. Depart. Agric. 1892; illustrated).

The preliminary report of investigations covering a period of fifteen months in California as well as in France, Italy and North Africa.

Calochortus Kennedyi. J. G. Baker. (Bot. Mag. t. 7264).

A native of California and Arizona.

Carludovica microcephala. J. D. Hooker. (Bot. Mag. t. 7263).

A native of Costa Rica.

Catasetum Hookeri, Lindl. R. A. Rolfe. (Gardn. Chron. xii. 488).

Cereus Hildmannianus. K. Schum. (Monats. Kakteenk i. 55, with illustration).

Cereus Queretaroensis, Web. A. Mathsson. (Monats. Kakteenk. i. 28).

Chamædorea stolonifera. J. D. Hooker. (Bot. Mag. t. 7265).

A palm native of South Mexico.

Descriptions of New Plants Collected in Mexico by C. G. Pringle in 1890 *and* 1891, *with Notes upon a few other Species.* B. L. Robinson. (Proc. Amer. Acad. xxvii. 165, reprint).

The following thirty-eight plants are described as new: *Cleome Potosina, Viola reptans, Æschynomene petræa, Vigna luteola,* var. *angustifolia, Vigna strobilophora, Cæsalpinia multiflora, Lopesia angustifolia, Oldenlandia Pringlei, Valeriana albonervata, Eupatorium Lemmoni, Xanthocephalum tomentellum, Bellis purpurascens, Erigeron heteromorphus, Melampodium longipilum, Sabazia Michoacana, Gymnolomia canescens, Tithonia brachypappa, Verbesina Potosina, V. Pringlei, Spilanthes Beccabunga,* var. *parvula, S. disciformis, Leptosyne pinnata, Flaveria anomala, Porophyllum Pringlei, Cnicus excelsior, Perezia Michoacana, Androsace* (?) *cinerascens, Dictyanthus tuberosus, Gonolobus suberiferus, Phacelia namatostyla, Lithospermum calcicola, L. revolutum, Ipomœa ornithopoda, Beloporone fragilis, Habenaria Pringlei, Tigridia pulchella* and *Tradescantia angustifolia.* Two new genera are established. *Geissolepis* in the *Compositæ* (*Galinsogeæ*) with one species *G. suædæfolia* and *Coulterophytum* of the *Umbelliferæ* (*Selineæ*) also with one species *C. laxum.*

Destructive Disease Affecting Native Plums—A. John Craig. (Ottawa Nat. vi. 109).

With an illustration of *Cladosporium carpophilum,* and notes on its occurrence on various kinds of American plums.

Development of the Ovule of Aster and Solidago—The. Geo. W. Martin. (Am. Nat. xxvi. 954).

Echinocactus Grusonii, Heldm. (Monats. Kakteenk. i. 4; illustrated).

A rare Mexican species.

Einteilung der Kakteen nach der Salmschem System. (Monats. Kakteenk. i. 156).

Flora of West Virginia. C. F. Millspaugh. (Bull. No. 24, West Va. Agric. Exper. Sta. Vol. II. No. 12, pp. 315–538, Charleston, 1892).

This is a preliminary catalogue of the Flora of West Virginia, a State from which we have hitherto had but little definite botanical information. 1,645 species, varieties and forms are listed, and their distribution indicated, with numerous critical notes of interest and importance. Dr. Millspaugh has fearlessly taken up old generic and specific names, so that his catalogue is a valuable contribution to the nomenclature question. Among the genera accepted as replacing those used in the ordinary text-books are *Bicuculla* for *Dicentra*, *Neckeria* for *Corydalis* (on the last page of the book Dr Millspaugh notes that there is also a moss genus *Neckeria*, and questions which is the older; the Fumariaceous genus has priority; *Beurera* for *Calycanthus*, *Therofon* for *Boykinia*, *Deeringia* for *Cryptotænia*, *Lacinaria* for *Liatris*, *Ridania* for *Actinomeris*, *Adopogon* for *Krigia*, *Pseva* for *Chimaphila*, *Physalodes* for *Nicandra*, *Kœllia* for *Pycnanthemum*, *Agastache* for *Lophanthus*, *Malaxis* for *Microstylis*, *Leptorchis* for *Liparis*, *Gyrostachys* for *Spiranthes*, *Chrosperma* for *Amianthium*, *Chamæraphis* for *Setaria*, *Sieglingia* for *Triodia*, *Corycarpus* for *Diarrhena*, *Panicularia* for *Glyceria*, and *Hystrix* for *Asprella*.

The novelties described are *Syndesmon thalictroides* forma *rosea; Delphinium tricorne*, forma *albiflora; Polygala sanguinea*, forma *albiflora; Rubus odoratus*, var. *Columbianus* (whatever suggested the varietal name ?); *Hydrangea arborescens*, var. *Kanawhana* (this may be *H. glauca*, Raf.); *Œnothera fruticosa*, var. *differta; Daucus Carota*, forma *rosea; Sambucus racemosa*, forma *albicocca*, Britton; *Houstonia cœrulea*, forma *albiflora; Lobelia inflata*, var. *simplex* (Raf.); *Scutellaria galericulata*, forma *albiflora; Polygonum Persicaria*, forma *albiflora; Acaly-*

pha Virginica, forma *intermedia; Brachyelytrum aristosum*, var. *glabratum*, Vasey; *Polypodium vulgare*, forma *biserratum; Dicranodontium Virginicum*, E. G. Britton; *D. Millspaughii*, E. G. Britton (figured), and *Plagiochila Virginica*, Evans (figured).

The issuing of this catalogue will doubtless be a great stimulus to further botanical exploration in the State. Dr. Millspaugh has only been able to visit a small portion of the territory during the two years that he has had the work in hand, and the number of working botanists in the region is few. We have no doubt that further study will go far towards doubling the number of plants which he has been able to report. The whole country south of Pennsylvania still offers a most attractive ground for collectors, and we hope that it will not be long allowed to await careful search.

N. L. B.

Gebirgsflora Alabama's—Die. Carl Mohr (Pharm. Rund. x. 253).

Grasses of the Pacific Slope. George Vasey (U. S. Depart. Agric. Bull. No 13, Washington, 1892).

This fine volume is part I. of Dr. Vasey's work on the grasses of the west coast and contains fifty descriptions and plates of species, many of which are there illustrated for the first time. The plates are up to the usual high standard of excellence and beauty for which the department is famed and the value of the book as a work of reference is greatly enhanced by the citation of the place of publication of the species described. The latter are *Panicum Urvilleanum, Cenchrus Palmeri, Phalaris amethystina, P. Lemmoni, Hierochloa macrophylla, Aristida Californica, Stipa coronata, S. eminens, S. Kingii, S. occidentalis, S. Parishii, S. setigera, S speciosa, S. Stillmani, S. stricta, Oryzopsis exigua O. Webberi, Muhlenbergia calamagrostidea, M. Californica, M. debilis, M. dumosa, M. Parishii, Alopecurus alpinus, A. Stejnegeri, A. Californicus, A. geniculatus*, L. var. *robustus, A. Howellii, A. Macounii, A. saccatus, Agrostis æquivalvis, A densiflora, A. exarata*, forma *asperifolia, A. Hallii, A. humilis, A. tenuis, Calamagrostis Aleutica, C. Bolanderi, C Breweri, C. crassiglumis, C. Cusickii, C. densa, C. deschampsioides, C. Howellii, C. purpurascens, C. Tweedyi, Deschampsia cæspitosa*, var. *arctica, Trisetum Californicum, T. canescens, T. cernuum, Orcuttia Californica* and *O. Greenei.*

Herbarium Indexes for all the groups of Cryptogams. A. B. Seymour (Cambridge, Mass. Sept. 1892—27 sheets, blue prints. 8×10, price $1.00).

These include only such genera as occur within the United States, and are after the plan of those in use for Phanerogams in the Gray Herbarium. The genera are arranged alphabetically, prefixed by numbers to indicate their systematic order, and will be of great service to all those who limit their collections to this country.—E. G. B.

Hibiscus Moscheutos (Meehan Month. ii. 161. Illustrated).

Kakteen aus dan Staate Vera Cruz. A. Mathsson (Monats. Kakteenk. i. 79).

Lady's Slippers—Hardy (The Garden, xlii. 386). With a colored plate of *Cypripedium acaule and C. pubescens.*

Mamillaria obscura. H. Heldmann (Monats. Kakteenk. i. 52).

Mamillaria Schumannii, Heldm. (Monats. Kakteenk. i. 89, with illustration).

Mangrove Tannin. Henry Trimble (Contr. Bot. Lab. Univ. Penn. i. 50).

With an illustration of a grove of *Rhizophora Mangle.*

Melilotus alba, L.—Preliminary Observations on the Movements of the Leaves of. W. P. Wilson and Jesse M. Greenman. (Contr. Bot. Lab. Univ. Penn. i. 66 with 5 plates.)

Montreal Island—The Flora of. Robert Campbell. (Can. Rec. Sci. v. 208).

Moorea irrorata. J. D. Hooker (Curt. Bot. Mag. xlviii. t. 7262). An orchid from the Andes of South America.

Mountain Flora of Alabama—The. Charles Mohr. (Gard. and For. v. 507).

Oaks of North America (Hardwood ii. No. 8).

Oak-pruners—The. John B. Smith. (Gard. and For. v. 557. Illustrated).

Pilocereus senilis cristatus. A. Mathsson. (Monats. Kakteenk. i. 32. Illustrated.)

Pinus edulis. (Gard. Chron. xii. 563. Illustrated).

Phyllocactus Phyllanthus, Lk. (Monats. Kakteenk. xi. 72. Illustrated). Notes on this Brazilian species.

Plant Diseases—Report on the experiments made in 1891 *in the Treatment of.* (U. S. Depart. Agric. Washington, 1892. Illustrated).

Plantain—A Rare. H. P. Keyes (Gard. & For. v. 550). Note on the discovery of *Plantago media*, at Framington, Maine.

Post Laramie Beds of Middle Park, Colo. Whitman Cross. (Read before the Colo Sci. Soc. Oct. 3, 1892. Pamph. 8vo, pp. 27).

Under the heading, "Age of the Middle Park Bed," the author utilizes the evidence afforded by fossil plants to determine the age of certain beds. He criticises their reference by Lesquereux to the Laramie Lignitic group and shows that this reference was probably due to an attempt to make the plants fit in the place where the stratigraphical geologists thought they ought to belong, combined with a manifest disarrangement of labels. A careful revision of the specimens upon which Lesquereux's conclusions were founded, in addition to new material since collected leads the author to conclude that the Middle Park beds are post-Laramie in age. A list of twenty-eight species of fossil plants is included. A. H.

Quercus densiflora (Gard and For. v. 517. Illustrated).

Rudbeckia hirta, L.—A. Monstrous Specimen of. J. T. Rothrock (Contr. Bot. Lab. Univ. Penn. i. 3. Illustrated).

Sequoia gigantea—A Museum Specimen of (Gard. & For. v. 451.)

Two illustrations and a most realistic description of the felling of one of the giant Redwoods in Fresno Co. Calif. are given. The particular tree figured girthed sixty-two feet at eight feet from the ground and ninety feet at the surface and a section of the trunk twenty feet in diameter is now on exhibition in the Jesup collection of American woods in the American Museum of Natural History.

The Flora of the Dakota Group. A posthumous work by Leo Lesquereux. Edited by F. H. Knowlton. (Monograph no. xvii. U. S. Geol. Survey, pp. 400, including 66 plates. Washington, 1891).

In this volume we have the latest contribution to our knowledge of the cretaceous flora of North America. The work will always be known as that of Prof. Lesquereux, but the laborious and thankless work of the editor should not be lost sight of. The editor of a posthumous work has always a delicate position to fill, as he is constantly called upon to choose between allowing real or apparent errors to remain or correcting them to the best of his ability and perhaps making the author say what he never intended to say. In this volume the editor has adopted a conservative course, preferring to suffer criticism from modern purists rather than to alter the manuscript, or known preferences of Prof. Lesquereux except in cases where errors of importance were manifest. A short sketch of the life and work of Prof. Lesquereux is included in the author's preface, which is followed by an account of the discoveries in various localities of the flora recognized as belonging to the Dakota group. An interesting general discussion or analysis of the flora occupies about thirty pages in which attention is called to the significance of many of the facts involved. There is no doubt that many of the problems connected with the study of the geographical distribution of plants at the present day could be solved, at least in a large measure, by a careful comparison of the extinct flora with that now in existence in the same locality and the more nearly we approach modern times the more significant are the results which are obtained. Thus in regard to the present work the author says: "Already the evidence obtained from the study of the Dakota Group remains warrants the conclusion that the flora of North America is not at the present epoch, and has not been in past geological times composed of foreign elements, brought to this continent by migration, but that it is indigenous. Its types are native; the diversity of their representatives has been produced by physical influences; their affinities, therefore, or the relation of their modification or derived forms can not be looked for in the vegetation of distant countries." To the botanist the principal interest will center in the Dicotyledones, which constitute the bulk of the work. Most of them are referred to living genera or genera so nearly allied that their affinities are indicated by such names as *Rhamnites*, *Celastrophyllum*, *Menispermites*, *Palæocassia*, *Viburnites*, *Populites*, etc., early ancestors of our familiar trees and shrubs of to-day. In this connection, from among the many interesting examples, attention might be called particularly to the species figured under the genus *Liriodendron*, in which some dozen forms of great variety are shown, represented to-day by our one species, *L. Tulipifera.*

The one serious criticism which might be made is one which could be applied to nearly every recent work on palaeobotany, viz.: the unnecessary multiplication of species and varieties Leaf forms which vary between themselves far less than do the leaves on many an individual tree or bush are given varietal or specific rank. Even some genera are founded upon such slight differences that they are open to suspicion. In this connection attention might be called to Plates iv. and v., where *Betulites Westii* and *B. Snowii* with their varieties are figured. If such species and varieties are to be considered in the same sense as they are considered in botany, that is as representing each a distinct type of tree or shrub, then there should certainly be an earnest protest entered against the abuse of this too prevalent custom. Minor flaws might be picked out, such as the method of numbering on the plates, by which the figures and their corresponding numbers are sometimes so arranged that in case of hasty reference confusion might ensue. The scientific value of the work, however, is what concerns the student and by him it will be heartily welcomed, especially so as a large number of the types described are identical with those from the cretaceous of Eastern North America and are familiar objects in the clays of New Jersey and southward. A. H.

Trees of the Northern United States, their Study, Description and Determination, for the Use of Schools and Private Students. Austin C. Apgar. (Small 8vo., pp. 224; illustrated).

Professor Apgar has written a very useful little book, that will doubtless do much toward spreading an interest in trees and their study. He gives good and concise botanical descriptions of all the species, both native and introduced, that have come under his notice as growing north of Virginia and Missouri and east of the Rocky Mountains, accompanied by illustrations of their foliage and in some instances of flowers and fruit; these illustrations have been very well drawn, and for the most part well selected. We note an apparent mistake on page 100, where the leaves of *Prunus Virginiana* and *P. serotina* have evidently been transposed in the make-up of the book, the obovate leaf attributed to *P. serotina* being characteristic of the other tree; the leaf illustrating *Cratægus tomentosa* is badly chosen and that taken for *C. coccinea* is hardly typical.

The book is written in a much more scientific vein than Mr. Newhall's "Trees of Northeastern North America," and the cuts are superior to those in that work. The descriptive portion is prefaced by chapters on roots, stems and branches, leaves, flowers and fruit, the winter study of trees, the preparation of a collection, figures used in description and a plan and models for tree description.

The author has made a very serious mistake in using the nomenclature of Gray's Manual, rather than the principles adopted by Professor Sargent in his Silva and in Garden and Forest, and by the officials of the Forestry Division of the United States Department of Agriculture. There is no doubt that this will seriously limit the usefulness and circulation of his book.

N. L. B.

Proceedings of the Club.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER, 26, 1892.

Vice-President Allen in the chair and seventeen persons present.

Mr. Wm. H. Smith, Miss Idalette Carpenter, Dr. Georgia A. Cassidy, Dr. Helen O'Connor and Mr. G. H. Van Wagenen were elected active members.

The resignation of the Secretary, Mrs. M. O. Lebrun, was then read and accepted after some remarks by Dr. Morong, in which he expressed the appreciation of the entire club, of the long and efficient services rendered by Mrs. Lebrun as Secretary. Upon motion of Dr. Morong, a vote of thanks was unanimously extended to Mrs. Lebrun. Dr. Britton then moved that a committee of two be appointed by the Chair to make arrangements for expressing in tangible form the feelings of the Club as expressed in Dr. Morong's motion. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted, and Mrs. E. G. Britton and Dr. Emily L. Gregory were appointed such committee.

Dr. Rusby was elected Secretary of the Club.

Dr. Morong, read the two announced papers of the evening